## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

March 8, 2004 LR 209

going to have it. That's my prediction. And remember, I've been called Nostradamus, so let's run with that. My biggest reason for moving this out of committee was that I still see to this point, and I'm going to...and I would speak to the same thing this afternoon, where the people are out there and they're constantly confused about what we should or can or would benefit them with as far as having the attitude to vote on...or having the opportunity to vote on something. They have, based on the decisions we make here, the right to change our constitution. I think in this case, based on the fact that...and even though I believe the fact that in 15 years there won't be any of this funding for any of these things, let them decide. I'm not sure what will happen if they have this on the ballot and what they'll do with it. I think that it's a toe-in-the-water type of mentality. And I would only disagree to this point with Senator Tyson, and agree, I believe, with what Senator...a little bit with what Senator Brashear said a couple days ago. Our constitution has got all kinds of interesting stuff in it. It is used as a stomping ground. So I would just say this. That's why I put... I let this... gave my vote out of committee, let this out to the floor, because I think in a lot of ways that people should have a right to vote on this. That's what I feel. We'll see how this breaks out. I don't know where the votes are. I'll sit back and listen. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Friend. Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the lottery...or...members of the lottery. (Laughter) Members of the lottery. We're like a lottery in here right now, let me you. I guess maybe those words came out at the tell proximate...or at the right time, appropriate time. You know, the lottery took a hit seven, eight years go, something like that, maybe ten years ago, when the gambling in all the other states around us became more prevalent. We see a...we saw a decline in the sale of those scratch tickets, Powerball, all these things, but now that is...has pretty much leveled off. I look at my own establishment and what's happened. It dropped off drastically when the boats opened across the river. But it's leveled out and if there were or if there was a casino in Omaha, the closeness to Iowa there I don't think is going to